WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for managing communication devices associated with a telephone network, a data network, and at least one unified communication manager connected to both the telephone network and the data network, the method performed by the unified communication manager comprising:

receiving an instant message from a user containing a request to configure at least one of the communication devices;

configuring a connection for the one of the communication devices based on information in the instant message; and

providing the user notification of the configuration of the connection for the one of the communication devices, the user notification being displayed on a display device for the user.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein providing the user notification comprises providing the user notification using an instant message.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein configuring a connection of at least one communication device comprises receiving signaling information from the voice network.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein configuring a connection of at least one communication device comprises receiving information from the data network.

5.   A computer readable medium capable of configuring a computer to perform a

method of managing communication devices associated with a telephone

network, a data network, and at least one unified communication manager

connected to both the telephone network and the data network, the method

performed by the unified communication manager comprising:

      receiving an instant message from a user containing a request to

            configure at least one of the communication devices;

      configuring a connection for the one of the communication devices based

            on information in the instant message; and

      providing the user notification of the configuration of the connection for the

            one of the communication devices, the user notification being

            displayed on a display device for the user.

6.   The computer readable medium of claim 5, wherein providing the user

notification comprises providing the user notification using an instant message.

7.   The computer readable medium of claim 5, wherein configuring a connection of

at least one communication device comprises receiving signaling information

from the voice network.

8.   The computer readable medium of claim 5, wherein configuring a connection of

at least one communication device comprises receiving information from the data

network.

9. Apparatus for managing communication devices associated with a telephone network, a data network, and at least one unified communication manager connected to both the telephone network and the data network, the unified communication manager comprising:

    means for receiving an instant message from a user containing a request to configure at least one of the communication devices;

    means for configuring a connection for the one of the communication devices based on information in the instant message; and

    means for providing the user notification of the configuration of the connection for the one of the communication devices, the user notification being displayed on a display device for the user.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for providing the user notification comprises the means for providing the user notification using an instant message.

11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for configuring a connection of at least one communication device comprises the means for receiving signaling information from the voice network.

12. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for configuring a connection of at least one communication device comprises the means for receiving information from the data network.

13. A unified communication manager, comprising:

    means for receiving a message from a data network reflecting one or more rules for establishing telephone calls to a particular user; and

means for configuring a connection for establishing the telephone calls to

the particular user in accordance with the rule(s), including

forwarding calls when necessary to one or more terminals

associated with user based on stored user profile information.